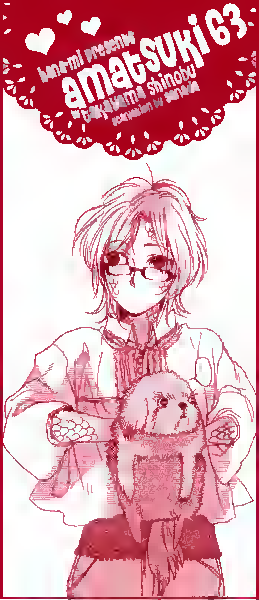
Hakone presents

amatsuki 63.

by Project Hakone Shinobu



SFX: WHOOSH
THE AIR STARTED SWIRLING AROUND SHINSHU-CHAN...
SPIRALLING TOWARDS AN OPENING SO TINY IT LOOKED LIKE A SPECK OF DUST...
EVERYTHING WAS SUCKED TOWARDS THAT POINT...
AND IT WAS ALL...
WOOSH
THE YAKOU'S DOING.

Chapter 63: The Mugwort That Grows Among The Hemp, Part 7

AND AS IT PULLED EVERYTHING IN, THE HOLE GOT BIGGER AND BIGGER...
IT WAS LIKE EVERY-THING IN THE WORLD WAS BEING SUCKED INTO THAT BLACK HOLE...
OBJECTS
hiss
hiss
hiss
PEOPLE!
SHE WAS...
!
EVERY-THING.

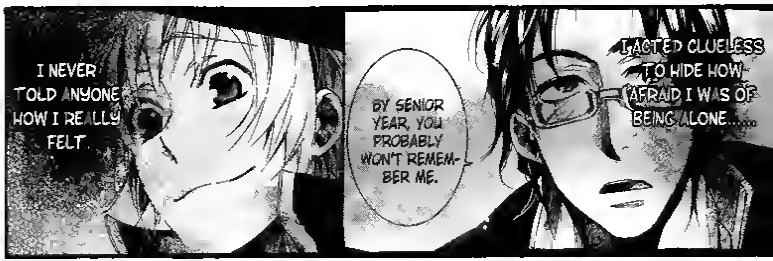
TOKI!!
RUN!
KUCHI HA
step

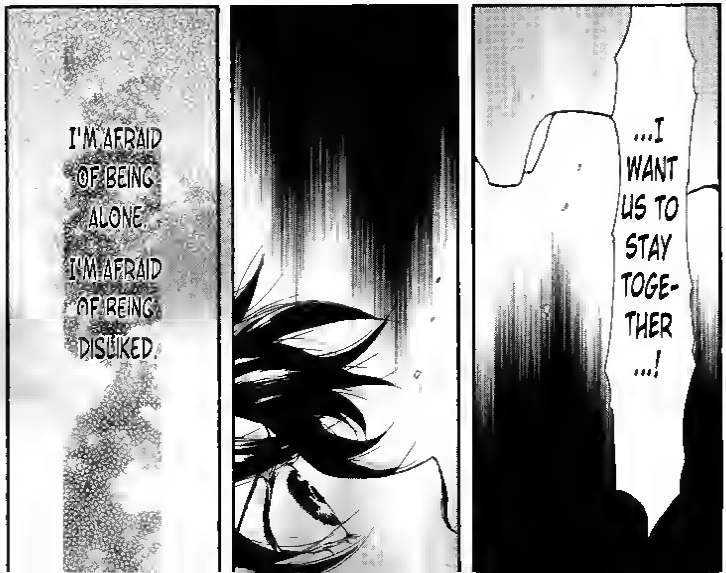
suck
suck
IT'S JUST LIKE BE-FORE..
WHAT IS THIS PLACE . !
THE MIST IS SO THICK..
WHO!
OSH
WINCE
!
...TOK!!?
KUCH!...
reach...
HA!!
I TOLD YOU TO RUN!
YOU IDIOT!!

I CAN HEAR HER VOICE.
JUST A LITTLE FURTHER..!!
DON'T DO THIS!
reach
reach
IF I COULD JUST REACH... A LITTLE MORE...
I TOLD YOU TO PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!
YOU CAN YELL AT ME LATER!!
STRETCH
JUST GRAB MY HAND!!
YOU IDIOT
INSIDE MY HEAD ...!!
reach
RUN!
hiss
hiss
hiss
YOU IDIOT, THERE'S NO USE!!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
YOU STUPID, SELFISH IDIOT!!
WHY IS SHE STILL BEING PULLED IN!?
!!

I'M WEAK...
I'M PATHETIC...
I'M AN IDIOT!
BUT COME ON, KUCHIHA! WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!!!
I...
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE...
ANY MORE PEOPLE THAT I CARE ABOUT!
TOKI!?
I NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO TELL ANYONE HOW I FELT...

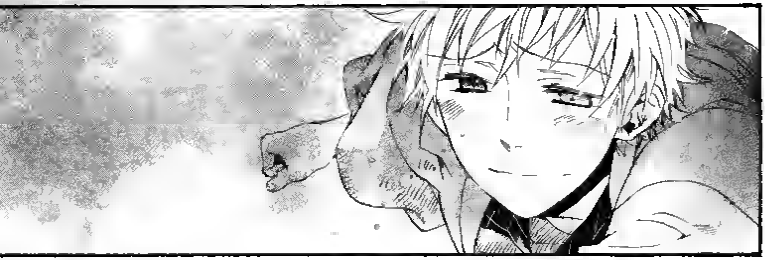
THEN THOSE TWO
You can't make smiles if you don't have friends, nee?
HO HO HO HO
GAH!
But I don't know how to make friends
Good morning, Toki-chan!
It's your first day of school!
FIRST MY PARENTS


I NEVER TOLD ANYONE HOW I REALLY FELT
BY SENIOR YEAR, YOU PROBABLY WON'T REMEMBER ME.
I ACTED CLUELESS TO HIDE HOW AFRAID I WAS OF BEING ALONE.....


I'M AFRAID OF BEING ALONE.
I'M AFRAID OF BEING DISLIKED.
...I WANT US TO STAY TOGETHER ...!

EVEN BEFORE WE SEPARATED, I'D ALREADY CLOSED MYSELF OFF...

I COULD NEVER SAY THOSE WORDS...



SFX: *BITE*
AH!
...!!
.....
WHOOO
!?
!!
SH

Splatter
SHE'S HURT ...?
WINCE
KU-CHI... HA!?
GRRR
.....!!
TOKI!
ROAR
GRRRR
OH, YEAH.
THE INU-GAMI ...
IT WAS INSIDE HER...
IS THIS... IT'S TRUE FORM !?
MAYBE... IT'S GOING WILD...
BECAUSE OF THIS WEIRD MIST...
MAYBE THAT'S WHY..
IT ATTACKS ANYONE WHO GETS CLOSE..
TO KUCHIHA ..
Where
SHAKE
EVERY-ONE IS..
GRRR

SFX: *TOSS*

BANG
KUCHI-HA!!
K... KUCHI-HA ...!!
KUCHI-HA!!
TOK!!
!?
BANG
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
DAMN IT...!
WHAT'S GOING ON!?

HUH ...?
SO YOU CAN TALK TO YOUR PARENTS EVERY DAY WITH THAT THING?
THAT'S PRETTY NEAT...
SIZZLE
YEAH.
BUT TVS ARE REALLY HIGH-TECH THESE DAYS YOU KNOW?
THEY CAN EVEN REPRODUCE STUFF LIKE TEMPERATURE AND SMELL.
YOU CAN HARDLY TELL IT'S NOT REAL.

JUST LIKE BEFORE...

I COULDN'T REACH FAR ENOUGH...

HUH.
I DUNNO ABOUT THAT.
SIZZLE
REA-LLY?
WELL, FOR INSTA-NCE ..
TAKE THIS RICE.
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
IF YOU SEE IT AND HEAR IT COOK-ING. .
YOU CAN ALMOST TASTE IT.
YEEEAH!!
Mmm! That is GOOD!
How GULP
BUT STILL...
!!
SO... I GUESS IT JUST DOESN'T WORK FOR FOOD?
stir
stir
IT WON'T FILL YOUR BELLY THAT WAY.
bounce
RUMBLE
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

SOMETHING ON A SCREEN CAN SOUND GOOD, LOOK GOOD, AND EVEN SMELL GOOD.
THEY CAN EVEN MAKE A SCREEN FEEL WARM IF YOU TOUCH IT.
IT CAN REPRODUCE ALMOST ANY SENSATION.
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE THAT, JUST LIKE YOUR STOMACH, CAN'T BE FOOLED.
SIZZLE
stir
WHAT'S THAT?
?

THIS!
point
YOUR HEART CAN TELL THE DIFFERENCE.

SO...
DO YOU GET IT NOW?
rub
rub
rub

YEAH.
YOU CAN TALK TO SOMEBODY...
YOU CAN EXCHANGE WORDS...
YOU CAN EXCHANGE FEELINGS...
BUT YOU CAN'T FOOL YOUR HEART...
Sigh
!
I JUST... PRETEND IT IS.
IT'S REALLY NOT THE SAME.
Pat
B
BUT

CRY THOSE TEARS RIGHT OUT!!
OKAY, TOKI!
HUH!?
POKE

...
BE-CAUSE I...

IT'S POISON FOR THE SOUL.
IT'LL MAKE YOU GO ALL BITTER
blink
YOU BOTTLE IT ALL UP AND CRY ABOUT IT ON THE INSIDE.
BUT THAT'S NO WAY TO LIVE, IS IT?

YOU'RE ALWAYS WORRIED THAT PEOPLE WILL THINK YOU'RE SELFISH
SO YOU DON'T TELL ANYONE HOW YOU REALLY FEEL.

YOU CAN BE A LITTE BIT SELFISH.
YOU CAN SAY WHAT YOU REALLY FEEL.
...AND ONCE YOU BREAK IT,

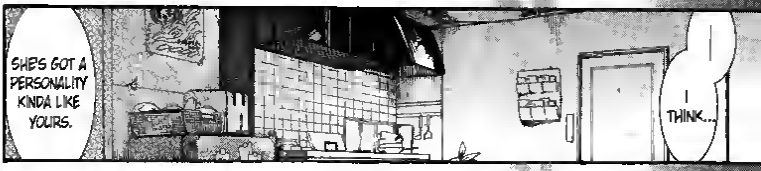
YOU'VE GOTTA LET IT ALL OUT!!
YOU'VE GOTTA BREAK THROUGH THAT MASK!
TEARS..
TEARS CAN'T BE BOTTLED UP!

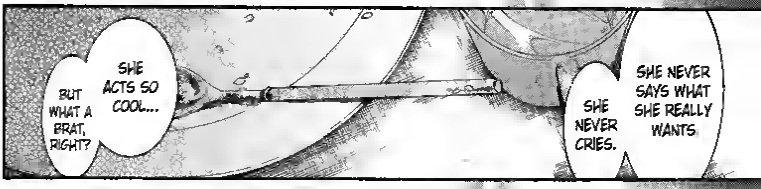
buahahahaha
SIZZLE
SMOKE
grin
WAAAHHHHH!!
GAAAHH!!
IT'S BURNING!!
IT'S BURNING!!
AND ONCE YOU CAN DO THAT,
YOU'LL BE A REAL MAN.
HEY, TOKI.
Sooo! It's on fire...!!
WAAH!!
WAAH!!

WHAT!?
PFFT!
toh ho ho ho ho ho ho ho ho
?
Um. she's pretty, but she's weird

YEAH?
SO, UH, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF CHITOSE?

MAN, YOU DON'T HOLD BACK, DO YOU, KID?
haha
haha
BUT... YOU MAY BE RIGHT!


I THINK...
SHE'S GOT A PERSONALITY KINDA LIKE YOURS.


SHE NEVER SAYS WHAT SHE REALLY WANTS.
SHE NEVER CRIES.
SHE ACTS SO COOL...
BUT WHAT A BRAT, RIGHT?

SO...

IF IT TURNS OUT THAT SHE'S CRYING ON THE INSIDE TOO,
I WANT YOU TO HELP HER OUT.
I COULDN'T DO IT...
SO I WANT YOU TO BE THERE FOR HER IN MY PLACE.
She and I
Will always be waiting for you.

gasp
MY NECK ...?
YES! JUST LEAVE IT TO ME!
NOW THAT RIKUGOU-SAN IS AWAKE, WE NEED TO MOVE HIM!!
YOU THERE WITH THE FEATHERS!! CAN YOU CARRY HIM WITHOUT JOSTLING HIM AROUND?
OH, RIGHT..
THE DOG GOD MUST HAVE BIT ME.
gasp
WAIT.
WHY WON'T YOU MOVE?
YOU'D BETTER NOT DIE!
WHAT IS IT, TOKI?
gasp
OI, TOKI!!!
DON'T YOU DARE CLOSE YOUR EYES!
RIKUGOU-DONO!!
CAN YOU HEAR ME?
SHOUT
RIKUGOU-SAN!! JUST HOLD ON!
RIKUGOU-SAN, PLEASE DON'T STRAIN YOURSELF!
YOU'VE JUST BEEN SERIOUSLY INJURED!
THAT THING TOOK A BITE OUT OF YOUR NECK!
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
EVERY-ONE...
DON'T TRY TO TALK, YOU IDIOT!
COUGH
SHOU ...?
gasp

THE WHOLE SHRINE
GOT SUCKED INTO THAT HOLE
AND VANI-SHED.
!!!
.....
.....
.....
YOU WANNA KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE YAKOU, RIGHT?
..WHO CARES ABOUT THE YAKOU?
WHAT ABOUT ALL THE PEOPLE AND ALL THE DEMONS WHO COULDN'T MAKE IT OUT?

WAIT.

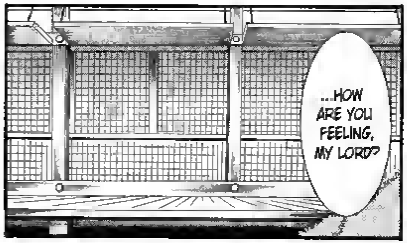
LET'S GO, HU-MAN!
YOU'LL HAVE TO KEEP PUTTING PRESSURE ON THAT WOUND!

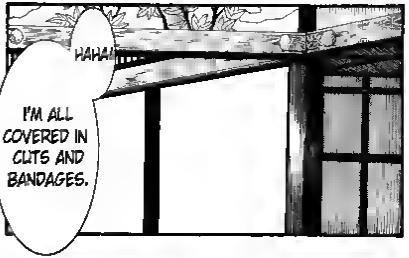
WHAT HAPPENED TO KUCHI-HA?
THE DOG GOD ATT-ACKED YOU..

...KANZOU!
HE'S NOT TO BLAME FOR THIS!
IF YOU MUST BLAME SOMEONE, BLAME ME!
I COULDN'T PROTECT KUCHIHA FROM THAT BLACK MIST...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
FROM THE OUTSIDE, EVEN YOU COULDN'T HAVE DISTINGUISHED THE DOG GOD FROM THE OTHER DEMONS!!
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN LIKE TRYING TO FIND WATER IN SAKE!
AI-NEZU!
GIVEN THE SITUATION, RIKUGOU IS THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HAVE SAVED HER!
KUCHI...
COUGH
GULP
RIKUGOU-SAN!!
COUGH
I'M SORRY!
DON'T LISTEN TO ME!
YOU'LL WORSEN YOUR INJURIES!
TCH!
KANZOU!! THAT'S ENOUGH!
I'LL SAVE HER!
GASP
GASP
COUGH
I'LL...
SHOCK
HU-MAN!?
RIKU-GOU-SAN!?
KUCHI-HA...
COUGH

I'LL...
SAVE HER!!
BACK THERE.
I KNOW I HEARD HER SAY...
"I'LL WAIT FOR YOU."
I'LL SAVE YOU, KUCHIKI-HA.
I'LL SAVE YOU.
LET'S GO, HUMAN.
sigh

I'M SORRY...
BUT I PROMISE I'LL COME BACK.
SO PLEASE WAIT FOR ME...

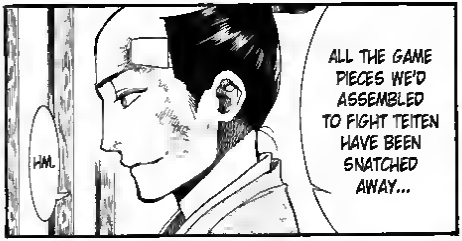

...HOW ARE YOU FEELING, MY LORD?


HAHA!
I'M ALL COVERED IN CUTS AND BANDAGES.

THERE'S NO POINT...
...IN HIDING THIS FROM YOSHINOBU
HE'S PROBABLY HEARD ALREADY.
OH?
BUT WHAT WILL HE SAY?

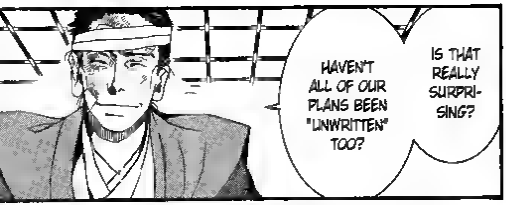
SO, BACK TO THE MATTER OF THE TWO HOLY PRINCESSES AND THE WOMAN WHO USES THE POWER OF THE DOG GOD...
sigh
!

I DON'T REALLY CARE!
huff
THIS IS BETWEEN HE AND I, SO IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!


ALL THE GAME PIECES WE'D ASSEMBLED TO FIGHT TEITEN HAVE BEEN SNATCHED AWAY...
HM.

I SUPPOSE THIS IS A BAD TIME...,
TO SAY THAT WE'VE PUT ALL OUR FAITH IN THE UNWRITTEN PAGE?

HEH.
WELL, HE'LL JUST HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT, THEN.
ha ha ha


HAVEN'T ALL OF OUR PLANS BEEN "UNWRITTEN" TOO?
IS THAT REALLY SURPRISING?

HA HA
IT DOES SEEM THAT WAY

BUT SASAKI, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S MORE FUN THIS WAY?
THAT BOY IS LIKE A BLANK SHEET OF PAPER...
I'll be waiting for you...
I WONDER WHAT SORT OF STORY HE'LL WRITE...?
...Right, Tokidoki?